

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-02 RSC-01 SSO-00 /015 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GKULICK:PCS

APPROVED BY AF:AMB. BLAKE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 247727

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OTRA (SIAD) CASC SU

SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SIAD

REFERENCE: CONAKRY 1679

1. REQUEST AMBASSADOR SEEK APPOINTMENT URGENTLY WITH
PRESIDENT SIAD AND ORALLY DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

2. AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, DAVID LIGHT, HAS BEEN HELD IN-
COMMUNICADO AND WITHOUT CHARGE BY SOMALI AUTHORITIES SINCE
SEPT 24, WHEN HE INADVERTENTLY CROSSED BORDER FROM
ETHIOPIA. US EMBASSY IN MOGADISCIO HAS REPEATEDLY MADE
REPRESENTATION TO FOREIGN MINISTER FOR CONSULAR ACCESS
TO LIGHT, BUT COMPLETELY WITHOUT SUCCESS. MATTER WAS
RAISED WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY ARTEH IN MOGADISCIO AND IN
WASHINGTON DURING SIAD VISIT. SUBJECT HAS ALSO BEEN
RAISED WITH AMBASSADOR ADDOU IN WASHINGTON. LIGHT IS RE-
PORTED TO HAVE HEALTH PROBLEMS AND FAMILY IS EXTREMELY
CONCERNED OVER HIS CONTINUED DETENTION.

3. WE ARE TAKING THE UNUSUAL STEP OF APPROACHING SIAD IN A
THIRD COUNTRY BECAUSE IT APPEARS THAT ONLY PERSONAL
INTERVENTION BY THE PRESIDENT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN
PERSUADING SOMALI SECURITY AUTHORITIES TO COMPLY WITH
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LEGITIMATE REQUEST FOR CONSULAR ACCESS AT LEAST. IN LIGHT

OF PRESIDENT SIAD'S STATEMENT THAT HIS VISIT TO

WASHINGTON HAD "OPENED A NEW CHAPTER" IN US/SOMALI RELATIONS, WE REQUEST THAT PRESIDENT SIAD TAKE WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY TO SECURE DAVID LIGHT'S IMMEDIATE RELEASE OR AT MINIMUM CONSULAR ACCESS TO HIM BY US EMBASSY MOGADISCIO. IN BRINGING THIS MATTER URGENTLY TO PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED OVER ADVERSE PUBLICITY WHICH COULD RESULT IN U.S. TO DETRIMENT US-SOMALI RELATIONS IF LIGHT'S CASE WERE TO BECOME GENERALLY KNOWN.

4. FOR OUAGADOUGOU. IF CONAKRY UNABLE MAKE APPOINTMENT WITH SIAD BEFORE HE DEPARTS (REFTEL) REQUEST YOU DELIVER SAME MESSAGE AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY. MAW

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 09 NOV 1974
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GKULICK:PCS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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